

Friends of the Peabody Institute Library of Danvers
Board of Directors Meeting
Classroom
January 15, 2025

Attendees:

Ellen Clarkson, Michele Chausse, Ivy Butterworth, Pat Baker, Kathy Young, Marsha Coogan, Mary Saratora, Sharon Jaworski, Maryann Kowalski, Elizabeth Chouinard, Elaine Cidzik

Welcome:

Ellen Clarkson, President of the Friends, welcomed us, followed by all of us stating our names, just as a refresher.

Approval of minutes:

Pat Baker, Treasurer, made a motion to approve the minutes from the 11/20/24 meeting. Michele Chausse, Vice-President, seconded the motion, which was approved by all.

Membership report:

Pat Baker noted that, as of this date, 48 people have paid \$2062 in membership fees. She then suggested that we should make a change to both our online membership application as well as our receipts to include the phrase "To include corporate matching gifts." Michele volunteered to make this change on the application form on the library website.

Ivy Butterworth, Recording Secretary, will be sending out a reminder of membership renewal on Monday.

Lynette Gray, Director, wants to step down as Membership Chair. She is willing to work with the incoming Membership Chair. Please let Ellen know if you are interested in this position.

Museum pass program:

We make passes available to a number of local museums, including the following: Wenham (\$350), Gardner (\$225), Museum of Science (\$700), Children's (\$725) and Cape Ann (which is free this year, yet we have to tell them that we want a pass). MaryAnn Kowalski made the motion, seconded by Sharon Jaworski, that we will approve the renewal of all passes, as long as the new costs do not exceed a 10% rise in prices. It was suggested that we look at the utilization of the passes.

Finance report:

Pat Baker noted that our checking account balance is \$11,182.72, while our savings account balance is \$5,000.19. We also have a CD worth \$3,000 that will mature in October, leaving us with a total of \$19,182.91. If you want to get reimbursed for library expenditures, please contact Pat (bakerpat787@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

Program committee/ Calendar review:

Our first fundraiser of this year will be held at Texas Roadhouse on February 6th from 3 p.m.-10 p.m. Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of total food purchases to the Friends of the Library. We are looking for volunteers to be at the restaurant during the times listed above as well as people who would be able to contribute a gift basket and/or gift certificates. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Ellen Clarkson (ellenclarkson@hotmail.com).

Marsha Coogan and Michele Chausse presented information regarding a number of presentations coming up within the next six months. Only the highlights will be mentioned here. Details will be forthcoming.

- Wednesday, February 12th—Virtual presentation—"The Traveling Librarian"

- Thursday, February 18th in the Children's Room—"How to Draw Pokemon Characters"--\$375 approved. Program Initiated by Amy Martin, Head of Children's Services
- Saturday, February 22nd from 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.in the Gordon Room. Gospel Ensemble. \$800 approved
- Tuesday, March 4th in the Gordon Room from 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.–An Oral History Workshop. An interactive program to help people learn how they can tell their own story. \$300 approved
- Thursday, April 8th–Launching National Library Week (April 6-12). Recognition of Peabody Institute Library staff with gift bags.
- Tuesday, April 15–Book Sale kick-off meeting
- Wednesday, April 30—"Blissful Family concert" \$400 approved. Program initiated by Amy Martin
- Other ideas for the spring. A gathering at Endicott Park with the theme being nature. We could try out the new fitness trail and perhaps have a Junior Ranger as a speaker or invite Dan Gagnon to talk about the evolution of Danvers as a community.
- Wednesday, May 14- 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.–Gordon Room. Annual Meeting \$250 approved. Michele will invite JoeAnn Hart, a noted fiction writer, to be the annual meeting speaker.
- Summer reading program. \$225 approved. Program initiated by Amy Martin
- August–Sponsor an outside concert, perhaps one focusing on country music
- September or October–Classical Music concert

Library Updates:

In the absence of Noelle Boc, Library Director, a discussion was held regarding the program offered by the library to help hearing-impaired people. We plan to ask Noelle to do a presentation on the "loop program," which enhances the ability of people to hear.

Next Meeting is Wednesday, February 19, from 6:15-8:00 in the Gordon Room.

Note the change in time and venue!